[*CONFIDENTIAL.*] [No. 34 of 1875.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR

The Week ending the 21st August 1875.

THE *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 29th July, suggests the necessity of establishing a college in the Rungpore district. Such a measure would confer a great boon on the inhabitants, and save them from the inconvenience and expense of sending their children elsewhere to complete their English education.

RUNGPORE DIK PRAKASH, July 29th, 1875.

2. The *Baráhanagar Samáchár*, of the 31st July, invites the attention of Government to the urgent need and desirability of allotting separate quarters for the residence of prostitutes in Calcutta. From the present system, under which no notice is taken of the subject, and they are allowed to occupy houses in the midst of respectable people, much evil results. If the proposal to separate them were carried out, the police would find it more convenient to keep an eye on the criminals of Calcutta, who largely congregate in these houses of ill-fame.

BARAHANAGAR SAMACHAR, July 31st, 1875.

3. In the course of a lengthy editorial on the visit of the Prince of Wales, the *Rájshahye Samáchár*, of the 6th August, dwells on the advisability of our Rulers conciliating the Native Princes and the educated portion of the community, and removing from their minds the feelings of discontent produced by the late affairs at Baroda. He then proceeds to characterize the Durbars, held by Government, in these terms :—They are only intended to create an impression of the power of the British, and to wound the feelings of Native Princes. The spectacle, witnessed at these Durbars, does not greatly differ from that presented by a triumphant Roman army leading its captive Princes in its train. We do not understand how their loyalty can be impeached, even though the Native Princes do not congregate together; or how the omission of a particular act can be construed into disrespect of the British Crown; or how it can be thought that the Prince of Wales is not honored if some particular part of the town be not illuminated on a particular day; or how natives can be supposed wanting in proofs of good-will to the British Government, because they do not expend a certain sum of money for the purpose. That kind of loyalty is alone to be appreciated, which is voluntarily manifested, without any pressure from the Rulers. We do not understand why, thus hankering after a feigned loyalty, Government betrays the levity of its heart; except it be for the object of making a parade before others of its popularity with the natives.

RAJSHAHYE SAMACHAR, August 6th, 1875.

4. The same writer proceeds to observe that our Rulers also make another error. They seem to think that, as Asiatics, we are very fond of glitter and sport; and it was only by such displays and demonstrations that the Mahomedan Emperors, though foreigners in both creed and language, succeeded in gaining the affections of natives. This is not correct. We

RAJSHAHYE SAMACHAR.

find on a little reflection that those Emperors really loved the country, nay, India was adopted as their native land; and hence it was that natives were so strongly attached to them. Our Rulers should consider how eagerly they have been defended by educated natives, when their justice has been called in question by the common people; but their present acts do not warrant such a course any longer. We do not think that Government will ever be able to gratify any of the leading natives by mere sport and glitter. We, however, possess the virtue of patience in a remarkable degree. We are indeed destined to see such sports, and have witnessed many. The Baroda comedy has been but recently acted. We do not care to see any more, especially in connection with our future Sovereign.

RAJSHAHYE SAMACHAR, August 13th, 1875.

5. The same paper, of the 13th August, in an article on Baroda, remarks that the Minute of the Governor-General, on the deposition of Mulharrao, is but a feeble attempt at justification of its measures, and is by no means a satisfactory explanation. The conduct of Government, in this matter, reminds us of the well-known fable of the wolf and the lamb. The plea of mis-government is a very convenient one. It was urged when the Nawab of Oudh and others were deposed. The banishment of sixty-four persons from Baroda without any trial, the deprivation of Laksmi Bye of her ornaments, the banishment of Mulharrao himself, the excessively high salary allowed to Sir Madhaba Rao and to the Municipal Commissioner of Baroda, and lastly, the charge upon the exchequer of that State for the expenses of the Commission appointed to try the ex-Guicowar, are all objectionable. It would have been better to annex the State.

MOORSHEDABAD PATRIKA, August 6th, 1875.

6. The *Moorshedabad Patriká*, of the 6th August, in a sarcastic article on Baroda, beseeches his countrymen to refrain from discussing the affairs of that kingdom. No matter whether their hearts are sad or otherwise for the misfortunes of the expatriated Ruler, they should believe in the justice and wisdom of the British Government. They are a loyal race, and submission to the will and acts of their Rulers is a marked characteristic of their loyalty. They should be content with their present condition, and meekly endure their lot. If they had no tears to shed for the woes of Wajid Ali and Monsor Ali, are they justified now in sympathizing with Mulharrao?

BISHWA DUT, August 11th, 1875.

7. The *Bishwa Dút*, of the 11th August, does not see the justice of excluding the son of Mulharrao from the Baroda Guddee for his father's fault. Lord Northbrook has committed a grave error. He should rectify it as soon as possible, or give the public clearly to understand that the British Government visits the shortcomings of the father on the son.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, August 12th, 1875.

8. Referring to the recent debates in Parliament on the progress of Russia in Central Asia, the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*, of the 12th August, observes:—While different persons are devising different means for arresting her progress, no one has yet adverted to the only, and the most feasible way possible. If the British are really determined to check her advance towards India, let them seek to gain the confidence of the natives; for if the latter helped them to the best of their ability, millions of such powers as Russia would not be able to do anything. To win over the natives also is an easy task; their aspirations being moderate and their hearts grateful. It is to be regretted that the English have not been yet able to gratify men whose hearts are easily gained over by only a few gentle words.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA.

9. A correspondent of the same paper writes the following on municipal institutions in Bengal:—Has the object for which they were introduced

been attained? Do the people hold the system in as much esteem as when they read of it on paper? How unlucky we are! The most useful systems on earth, imported into this country by the English, produce but bitter fruits. The municipality of Calcutta is an eye-sore to the people; so is that of Howrah. The rates are now twenty per cent. at Dacca: and the people have come to shudder at the very name of municipalities.

But we ask, are they the property of Government or the people? If they had belonged exclusively to either of them, there would have been no scope for oppression. But they belong to neither. The Government will not allow the people to act independently, while they are continually directed to look up to it for guidance and management. Our Rulers have no desire that natives should learn to rule themselves, or direct their own affairs. Municipalities were introduced for the benefit of the people, but Government is always ready to come in for its share. The taxes, which the citizens are to pay, are not to be assessed by themselves, but by the Magistrate; the citizens are supposed to be utterly ignorant of the measures to be adopted for the improvements of their own towns: the Magistrates understand all in an hour. This is why men of ability and judgment do not care to be made Commissioners; and they gradually retire, if already in the management. Hence it is also that people grow dissatisfied with municipalities: the rates are everywhere high. If natives had the sole charge and responsibility of these institutions, things would never have come to such a pass. With our Finance Ministers, the only way to impose a new tax is to increase the expenditure. The funds must be wholly expended before a fresh impost can be levied. Our Municipal Chairmen also are brought up in the same school with these Ministers. They generally waste the money realized from the poor. Should there be any delay in the payment of land tax, a small amount of interest on this money is at the most demanded. Even the rent of one year may be paid in another. But any delay in paying the municipal taxes occasions the sale of their houses.

The Municipal Police, paid by the citizens, are not under their control. This is extremely unjust and occasions great dissatisfaction. It would be better to have no police at all, than to have a body of men, supported by the money of the rate-payers, and tyrannizing over them. This is intolerable.

10. According to the *Education Gazette*, of the 13th August, the rules of the new Tariff Act will prove injurious to the rising cotton industry of India, and highly beneficial to the merchants of Manchester; who, since the accession of one of their body to the Council of the Secretary of State, have exercised a powerful influence in the Indian Cabinet. It would have been better if the Tariff Rules had been left as they were. The principles of free trade have indeed received the sanction of all eminent political economists; but exceptions also have been provided therein for countries placed in the position of India, which clearly needs protective duties to enable her to compete with foreign merchants of a wealtheir country. EDUCATION GAZETTE, August 13th, 1875.

11. The *Bhárat Sangskárak*, of the 13th August, referring to the debates in the House of Commons on the advance of Russia in Central Asia, observes that Government should by all means form beforehand strong alliances with neighbouring kingdoms, as Afghanistan. There is no truth in the professions of Russia. BHARAT SANGSKARAK, August 13th, 1875.

12. The same paper remarks, in reference to the memorial of the Indian Civil Servants to the Secretary of State, His Grace's reply, BHARAT SANGSKARAK.

and the Rules recently framed by Government for the admission of natives into the Civil Service, that the Civilians have no just cause of apprehension. They have been assured to this effect by the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State. Common sense also tells us, that the English would never do anything that might be prejudicial to the interests of men of their own race. The Rules regarding the admission of natives are so stringent, that we fear the whole affair will prove to be a mockery. If, with all these numerous disadvantages, a few natives do succeed in gaining admission into the service—which, however, we doubt greatly—we fear a distinction will even then be made between them and the covenanted servants. It is to be feared that they are devised only to keep back natives from entering the service, after passing the required examinations in England.

BHARAT SANGSKARAK, August 13th, 1875.

13. The same paper observes, in reference to a proposition to establish some English colonies in India, lately submitted before Parliament by Sir George Campbell on behalf of the Edinburgh East Indian Association, that, if it be carried out, natives will be subjected to great hardships and extreme injustice. It is urged by the Association that such colonies will form a support to the Government against the natives; will serve to spread civilization by their Christian example; and increase the wealth of the country by introducing new industries. But we find, on examination, that the probabilities are rather on the other side. The colonists, far from being disposed patiently to submit to the law and Government of the land, will most likely attempt to secure their own independence. Far from civilizing the natives by their Christian example, they will oppress and tyrannize over them. Government will, moreover, be compelled to enact different laws for them, and to sacrifice the interests of the children of the soil for the good of the colonists. Even now the native cotton industry has been crushed for the benefit of Manchester.

BHARAT SANGSKARAK.

14. The same paper dwells at great length on the new Tariff Act, which has been enacted only with a view to crush the rising cotton industry of India for the benefit of Manchester. An undue haste has been displayed in passing it. All ways, in which India might compete with Manchester, have been closed against her. It is measures like these that lead us to prefer native rule.

GRAMBARTA PRAKASHIKA, August 14th, 1875.

15. The *Grámbártá Prakáshiká*, of the 14th August, observes with regret that the beneficent English rule is becoming increasingly unpopular with natives of India owing to the faults of a number of low Anglo-Indians. These are the dregs of English society, and are extremely rude in their behaviour towards natives. If public officials, such as Magistrates, happen to be men of this class, they cause a great deal of mischief.

DACCA PRAKASH, August 15th, 1875.

16. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 15th August, asks Government to appoint a Native Assistant Surgeon to the Mitford Hospital at Dacca, in place of the present European Apothecary, who cannot, from his ignorance of native habits and manners, properly attend on native patients.

DACCA PRAKASH.

17. The same paper regrets to observe, that the new Tariff Act has been passed with undue haste, and with the sole purpose of gratifying Manchester at the expense of the rising cloth-mills of India. Far from helping the latter in a competition with other commercial countries, Government is eager to ruin her industries for the good of the Manchester merchants.

SADHARANI, August 15th, 1875.

18. The *Sádháraní*, of the 15th August, objects at great length to the provisions of the new Tariff Act. To gratify Manchester, Lord Northbrook has dealt a deadly blow to the cotton industry of India. But the time he

selected for doing it has been very unhappy. While the people of India are rejoicing at the expected visit of the Prince of Wales, and monster meetings are being held to arrange for his reception, measures have been devised to inflict ruin and misery on this country. Even the Anglo-Indian Journals have delivered themselves on the subject in the most indignant terms possible.

19. The same paper reflects, in a lengthy editorial, on the miserable condition of the natives, especially in reference to the opinions expressed by a section of the Anglo-Indians respecting their loyalty to the British Government. These men are constantly giving out that natives are extremely disaffected towards the English rule; and would not lose any opportunity of giving expression to their bitter feelings, should fitting occasions arise. They further add that there is no public opinion in India. Great injustice is done to us in this way. We are powerless, disarmed, and held in utter subjection by the rigors of the Penal and the Criminal Procedure Codes. Our Rulers forget that men, whose loyalty to the British rule remained unshaken during the days of the Mutiny, when any disaffection on their part might have caused not a little trouble to Government, are not likely to entertain any disloyal feelings now, when they have been enfeebled by the rigors of the law.

SADHARANI, August 15th, 1875.

20. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 16th August, does not see the need of retaining the present large number of Civilians in Bengal. Their number may be conveniently diminished, without any prejudice to public interests. A greater number of competent natives may be appointed on a lower scale of pay than what is allowed to the Civilians. They are never wanting in talents, and need only to be placed in positions of responsibility to be of advantage to the public.

SOM PRAKASH, August 16th, 1875.

21. The same paper, dwelling on the debates in the Bengal Council on the provisions to restrict the sale of spirituous liquors in dispensaries, remarks that, instead of adding any new sections to the Abkaree Act, it would be better if the Commissioner of Police in Calcutta, and the Subordinate Executive Officers in the Mofussil, were directed to exercise a strict supervision on the parties concerned. Their failure to do this has greatly helped to bring about the present unpleasant state of things.

SOM PRAKASH.

22. Adverting to the frequent disputes between zemindars and tenants, respecting *ábwábs*, or illegal cesses, demanded by the former, the same paper asks Government promptly to attend to the subject, and lay down some clear and equitable rules for regulating the relations of landlords and tenants. This state of things will, we fear, continue for a long time to come, unless Government insists on causing a permanent settlement to be made between the contending parties.

SOM PRAKASH.

23. The same paper observes, in reference to the gradual falling off in the number of patients in the Medical College Hospital, a fact which has also been noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor, that it is due (1) to the want of nurses for the native wards; the duty being now done by rough *khottá* coolies; (2) to the negligence of the students on duty, who do not administer medicine in proper time; and (3) to the diet being supplied to the patients in smaller quantities than ordered by the Professors, owing to the misappropriation of the same by the bakers, cooks, and other servants.

SOM PRAKASH.

24. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th August, is gratified to find that the Lieutenant-Governor has in a recent Minute acknowledged his error in connection with the appointment of school-books for the vernacular and the

SAHACHAR, August 16th, 1875.

minor scholarship examinations. It is not, however, known to the public what powers have been given to the Committee appointed for the purposes of selecting the books. It is suggested that subjects alone should be prescribed, and not any particular text-books. The History of India should take the place of that of Bengal, or that of the World. It is also better to appoint the zemindari and mahajani accounts, and the Elements of Political Economy in Bengali, instead of Botany, a superficial acquaintance with which will prove of little use to native lads.

SAHACHAR, August 16th, 1875.

25. The same paper has a lengthy editorial on the revised Tariff Act. Objection is taken to the undue haste with which it has been passed, and to its provisions, which will end in crushing the cotton industry of India. It has been framed only to gratify Manchester. The whole country in one voice protests against it. But Lord Northbrook seems determined to risk his popularity and reputation as a just administrator, which he has hitherto enjoyed.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 21st August 1875.

JOHN ROBINSON,
Government Bengali Translator.

List of Native Newspapers received and examined for the Week ending the 21st August 1875.

No.	Names.	Place of publication.	Monthly, weekly, or otherwise.	Date.
1	"Grámbártá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercolly	Monthly ...	Chaitra, 1281 B.S.
2	"Madhyastha"	Calcutta	Ditto ...	Joisto, 1282 B.S.
3	"Baráhanagar Samáchár" ...	Baráhanagar	Bi-monthly ..	16th and 31st July, and 16th Aug.
4	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kákiniá, Rungpore ...	Weekly ...	29th July.
5	"Moorshedabad Patriká" ...	Berhampore	Ditto ...	6th August.
6	"Rájsháhye Samáchár" ...	Karachmária, Rájsháhye...	Ditto ...	6th and 13th August.
7	"Pratidhwaní"	Calcutta	Ditto ...	10th August.
8	"Burrisal Bártábaha" ...	Burrisal	Ditto ...	11th ditto.
9	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Bauleah, Rájsháhye ...	Ditto ...	11th ditto.
10	"Bishwa Dút	Kálighat, Calcutta ...	Ditto ...	11th ditto.
11	"Amrita Bazar Patriká" ...	Calcutta	Ditto ...	12th ditto.
12	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	Ditto ...	13th ditto.
13	"Bhárat Sangskárak" ...	Harinávi, 24-Pergunnahs...	Ditto ...	13th ditto.
14	"Grámbártá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercolly	Ditto ...	14th ditto.
15	"Hindu Hitoishiní" ...	Dacca	Ditto ...	14th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	15th ditto.
17	"Sádháraní" ...	Chinsurah	Ditto ...	15th ditto.
18	"Som Prakásh"	Chángripottáh, 24-Pergunnahs.	Ditto ...	16th ditto.
19	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	Ditto ...	16th ditto.
20	"Sulabha Samáchár" ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	17th ditto.
21	"Sambád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto	Daily ..	7th to 14th August.
22	"Sambad Púrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	Ditto ...	13th, 16th, 17th and 19th August.
23	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto	Ditto ...	17th and 18h August.
24	"Urdu Guide" (*in Urdu*) ...	Ditto	Weekly ...	14th August.

Bengal Secretariat Press.

C. E. G.—Reg. No. 1723.